

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SC Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe



November and
December 2021



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Tim Keown

Hello Aggies!

We all hope you and your family had a wonderful Holiday Season! Our students and staff had a very productive November and December here at the SC Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe.

You might have noticed that we combined the November and December newsletter. The most prominent reason is that our Public Relations Director, Hayley Belton, had an awesome career opportunity in North Carolina. I would like to thank Hayley for being a part of the "A-Team." She was instrumental in rebranding the image of the school and is sorely missed. We could not have had a successful school re-opening without her. We wish her only the best in her new role.

In the October newsletter I mentioned our new Foundation Board. This Board went to work and was able to raise over \$40,000 in only two months! Some of this money will be spent to offset the cost of a new greenhouse facility. Thank you to AgFirst Bank and to our very special friend, Martha Robinson for your support of our school!

Our new equine facility is mostly completed and is ready for use. Our students have been using it for rodeo and riding practice after school. We are very thankful to the great state of SC for supporting the renovation of our arena. If anyone is interested in renting the arena for equine events, please let me know.

Renovations are ongoing here on our facilities. De la Howe Hall (the large main building) will begin a major renovation in 2022. We hope to begin in March and be completed around August of 2023. Three residential halls and three staff houses will also be renovated this year. This beautiful campus is slowly coming back to life.

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In closing, I am thankful for each and every student, parent, board member, legislator, and supporter that makes this place the best kept secret in the nation. I ask that each of you help us share the good news that our students and staff are doing monthly. Our past newsletters can be found on our main website. I hope each of you reading this has a happy and productive 2022!

Respectfully,

Timothy R. Keown



RING CEREMONY

On November 5, 2021, The SC Governor's School for Agriculture held the inaugural ring ceremony at the McKissick Memorial Chapel on our campus. This historical event celebrated our students and their legacy at John de la Howe. We hope our Aggies will forever be reminded of their time at John de la Howe and the special memories made here!





ERSKINE RODEO VISIT

Our JDLH students had the incredible opportunity to meet with Erskine College Rodeo. During this visit, our students learned about collegiate rodeo while getting to proudly display their hard work in the arena with their horses. This was an excellent opportunity for our students to discuss their future and learn about different programs available to them after high school. We want to extend a big thank you to Erskine College Rodeo for taking the time to meet our Aggies!



CAM CRAWFORD VISIT



Our students had the privilege of having Cam Crawford, President and CEO of the Forestry Association of South Carolina as a guest speaker. Mr. Crawford told his story and gave our students a glimpse into where hard work, dedication, and perseverance can take you in life. We are thankful for Mr. Crawford and his words of wisdom and advice on the forestry industry.

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The Education Center AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

Kinsley Miller

On November 16th, the Education Center hosted a Beginning Farmer Workshop. This workshop was for any new or beginning farmers interested in establishing or growing their own agricultural operation! Pickens County Area Agribusiness Agent, Matthew Fischer, provided participants with the skills and knowledge necessary to be a successful entrepreneur!



On Friday, November 19th, fifty 4th and 5th grade students from John C. Calhoun Elementary School in Calhoun Falls, SC visited our campus for a field trip experience. These students enjoyed hands-on lessons in Small Animal Showmanship and Wildlife Identification! Visit our website to find out more about field trip opportunities!



The Education Center
AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

Bull Breeding Soundness Exam

Friday, December 17, 2021 · 8:00 AM
Cost: \$60/bull
Location: Show Barn at JDLH
RSVP to Kinsley.Miller@delahowe.sc.gov

The Education Center teamed up with the JDLH farm staff to host a Bull Breeding Soundness Exam on Friday, December 17th. Over 13 bulls were tested. A special thanks to Andrew Warner and the farm staff for making this possible!

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The Education Center AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

The Education Center at JDLH will host the 1st annual **"de la Howe Wildlife Conclave"** on January 20-23, 2022! This is a valuable professional development opportunity for high school students across the Southeast interested in the field of environmental and natural resources.



Admissions & Recruitment

Cadie Giba

The admissions and recruitment department participated in several activities and events across the state. On November 6th, the department presented at the Virtual Clemson Summit. The summit was designed to educate, inspire, and empower underrepresented middle and high school students but was open to any 7th-12th grade student who registered. Our department hosted a breakout session along with the other two SC Governor's Schools.

On November 7th, admission representatives visited Iva Elementary School to speak about the program and to deliver a STEM-focused presentation. Staff members delivered a lesson on animal care, physiology, and showmanship to the students.

The department traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana on November 11th to deliver a presentation about the SC Governor's for Agriculture at the National Rural Education Conference. Staff members had the opportunity to conduct a 60-minute presentation about the agency's mission and vision. The conference had over 400 attendees.





Admissions & Recruitment

Cadie Giba

On November 30th, prospective students had the opportunity to spend the day in the life as an #JDLH Aggie during our Aggie Shadow Day. These students had a fantastic day shadowing current students, attending academic and agriculture classes, meeting faculty and peers, eating lunch in the dining hall, and seeing what it means to be an Aggie!



ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES
at the SC Governor's Schools



Joint Info Sessions
Dec. 5-7



From December 5 - 7, the department teamed up with the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities and the South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics for Endless Opportunities—a series of info sessions featuring presentations by each school.

Deadline Reminder!



SC Governor's School
for Agriculture
AT JOHN DE LA HOWE

2022-2023
APPLICATION
DEADLINE
JANUARY 4, 2022

To be considered for admissions for the 2022-2023 Academic Year, all Application Checklist items must be completed by this date.



AgFirst Check Presentation

On December Seventh, The South Carolina Governor's School for Agriculture had the honor of meeting with Mr. Jeff Payne and his team at AgFirst Farm Credit Bank to show our appreciation for their generous donation to help build our new greenhouse. During this time, Mr. Payne educated our students on the importance of farm credit, how their bank operates, and how it helps agriculture. In addition, Mr. Keown, staff, and students got to share the importance and mission of John de la Howe with Mr. Payne and his executive team.



This meeting was an excellent opportunity for students to meet leaders in the agricultural industry and to meet donors who believe in and support the efforts of John de la Howe. To top off the trip, AgFirst Farm Credit Bank provided lunch for everyone. This opportunity does not go unnoticed, and we want to thank AgFirst Farm Credit Bank for investing in our school and the future of Agriculture!



BIOLOGY BLAST

Yvonne Banks

Biology 2 students have been learning about cell division. Students learned cell division is the process which allows growth, repair, and the production of sex cells.

Students used Play-Doh to model the behavior of chromosomes.

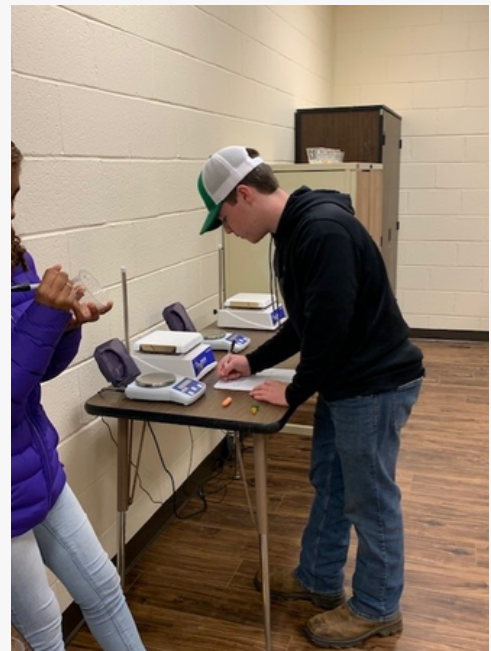
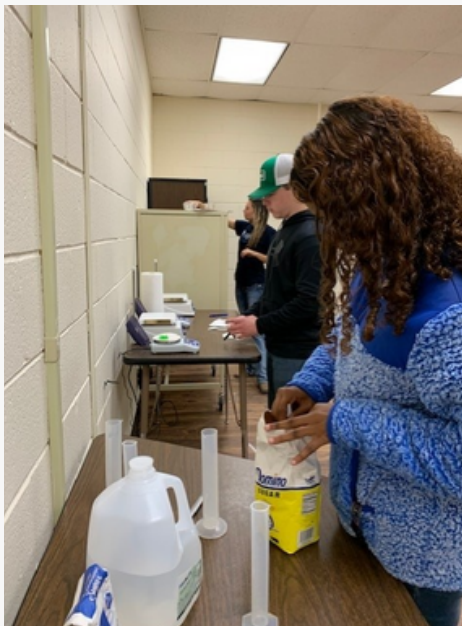


Biology 1 students have been studying cellular structure and function. Students investigated how the plasma membrane allows substances to move into and out of the cell.





A gummy bear was used to model an animal cell and carrots were used as plant cells. The gummy bears and carrots either gained water mass or lost water mass due to the concentration of the solutions surrounding them.



ENGLISH

Dr. Stacy Platt

World Literature students continued to read the *Secret Life of Bees*, and we learned about bees and bee-keeping from Dr. Larry Lawson, a local beekeeper, and Mrs. Susan Jones, Master Beekeeper and Honey Bee Educator. Students also made beeswax lip balm and soap in class.

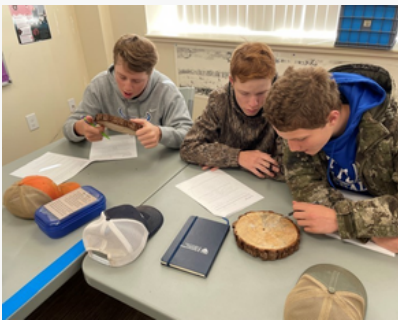


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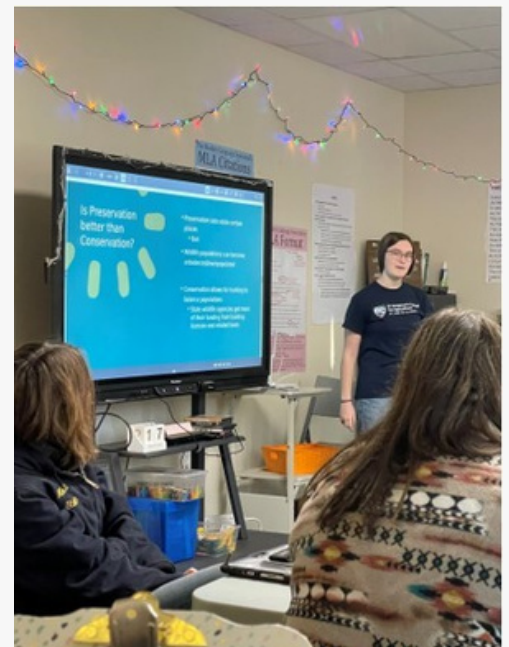
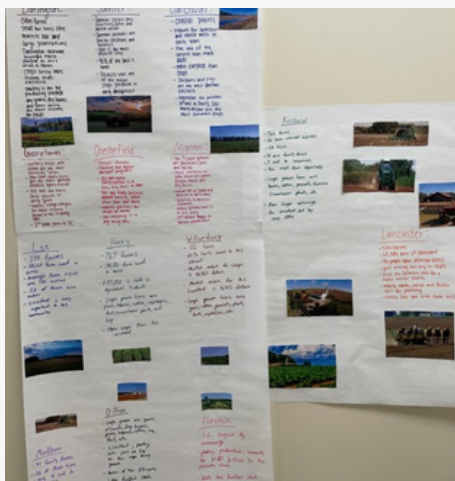


American Literature students completed and presented their Agriculture research projects, nature journals, and chapters from the nonfiction book, *A Sand County Almanac* by Aldo Leopold. Students completed activities such as tree ring counting and exploring transcendentalism with Mr. Sargent's US History class. Liam Gesling also put together our small class hydroponics soybean project.



Dual Enrollment students completed their persuasive research essays and presentations. Students worked on these for about a month.

British Literature students completed their SC Regional Ag products research and presentations.





Horticulture

Farm to Cafeteria

Our students are working to create a farm-to-table program to implement into our cafeteria. We have grown a successful broccoli crop grown commercial-style using recommendations from Titan Farms in Ward, SC. The goal is for the harvest to be complete in early December with enough product delivered to the school cafeteria for fresh frozen vegetables until the end of the year. A plan was developed to deter deer that love our broccoli! Forty pounds have been harvested so far, and the cafeteria staff prepared our own broccoli casserole with our Thanksgiving meal.

Market Building dismantle and Reconstruction

In cooperation with Mr. Abrams agricultural mechanics group and school maintenance, horticulture students dismantled two donated farm market buildings from the Savannah Lakes Community, transported the components, and reassembled them. One was placed near the greenhouse, and the other should be finished before the break. This one will be placed near the new ground and sawmill.

Winter Cover Crops

Students prepared the crop field behind the greenhouse. They also planted rye, hairy vetch, and annual ryegrass as a cover crop to develop heavy organic matter and increase soil nitrogen levels. This will help the farm staff plan research plots in the spring that could include every major crop grown in South Carolina.

Welcome Center Winter Landscape Transformation

Plant materials grown through the fall at the nursery area beside the greenhouse were incorporated into a winter landscape plan in three islands at the welcome center, including pansies, dusty miller, flowering cabbage, and ornamental kale. In addition, they made repairs and adjustments to the irrigation system and refreshed the pine straw mulch in the beds.

Land Judging Competition

The Governor's School for Agriculture proudly hosted our first annual intramural land judging competition with soils pits on the farm, where thirty-eight students competed in land evaluation, capability class determination, land use planning, and mechanical practice determination- top individuals included Trey Haddon, Palmer Johns, and Cole Hammond. Jake Simpson, Trey Haddon, Lyle Fulmer, and Lee Fulmer represented the school at the state contest in Latta, SC, where they placed in the top 10. The farm staff and local retired FFA advisors, including Fred Raines and Allen Williams, prepared and judged the event.



ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES

Hunter Morton

The wildlife class conducted the first deer hunt on campus on Wednesday November 30th. Four students participated with their hunting mentor, and out of the four we had one student harvest a doe which was his first ever deer he harvested.



We had 3 students participate in the Armenia Winds Pointing Breeds Club AKC Hunters on November 4-5th. Of those students Christian Fehr and his dog Lucy along with Collin Greene and his dog Annie Oakley earned their Junior Hunter Title. Also, Tanner Martin and his dog Sadie earned 3/4 passes towards their Junior Hunter Title and hope to finish their title on December 11th.





AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS

Russ Abrams

Ag Mechanization, Equipment Operations, and Ag Structures moved market buildings from McCormick to campus and reconstructed them by the greenhouse and sawmill. Our students learned valuable information and loved working with Mr. Ehmke on the project!



REAL WORLD CLASS

Jennifer Brown & Jordan Glace

NUTRITION & ETIQUETTE

The students in our Real World class learned about native edible species on campus while identifying local trees, mushrooms, and vines. They also practiced etiquette before enjoying lunch at a local restaurant.



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COMMUNITY SERVICE

Our Real World class is learning how to become ethical citizens. Students volunteered for the Christmas Angel Tree program, where they collected items for children in our community.



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Real World students built bicycles and wrapped gifts as part of their volunteer experience for The Christmas Angel Tree project, which will provide over 600 children in the community with gifts this year. The students learned the value of community service and reading instruction booklets carefully!





SC Governor's School for Agriculture at John de la Howe

FLORICULTURE

Kinsley Miller

Between November and December, Mrs. Miller's Floriculture class had the honor of decorating trees for the Holiday on Main event for the town of McCormick. Two of the trees featured facts about our school and pictures of each one of our students. Our class also had the pleasure of creating ornaments for the International Harvester tree located in the Chamber of Commerce. Students researched the life of Cyrus McCormick, an American inventor and Businessman who founded McCormick Harvesting Machine Company, which later became the International Harvester Company. This class even had the honor of assisting with decorating the town tree that was over 10 foot tall!



Students in Floriculture also learned how to create fresh wreaths made out of materials found right here on our campus! Students cut fresh pine and cedar to create mixed wreaths.





FFA and 4-H

RICHLAND CREEK FALL FESTIVAL AND ANTIQUE TRACTOR SHOW AND PULL

Our students had a great time participating in the Richland Creek Fall Festival and Antique Tractor Show and Pull. This was an excellent opportunity for our Aggies to volunteer. We would like to thank Mr. Berry, his family, and staff for inviting our FFA members for the opportunity to help out!



4-H MEETING

On November 8, our students involved in 4-H had a meeting to work on record books.

During our December 4-H meeting, we had Miss. Katie McCarter, the State 4-H Vice President as our guest speaker. We enjoyed her presentation!





CAFLS TAILGATE



Our students had a fantastic time attending Clemson University's College of Agriculture, Forestry & Life Sciences tailgate. This was a chance for our Aggies to mingle with professionals in the agricultural industry and represent our school before attending the Clemson Football Game. Our students had a great time and even had the chance to stop by Clemson 55 Exchange for a sweet treat before heading home!



AI SCHOOL

On November 17, our students participated in the Artificial Insemination school put on by Premiere Select Sires. This incredible day of learning was made possible by Saluda Stockyards hosting this class, Saluda Young Farmers providing the space, and The Saluda County Cattlemen's Association allowing our students to use their chute. This educational experience allowed our students to have a hands-on experience, and they are now certified in artificial insemination.





MCCORMICK CHRISTMAS PARADE

Our FFA members decorated and rode in the McCormick County Christmas parade. Our float won second place with a prize of \$200!



SANTA PALOOZA

On December 7, FFA and 4-H Officers had a Christmas party, "Santa Palooza" at Mr. and Mrs. Mann's house in Trenton, SC, where students enjoyed fun, food, and fellowship.





HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY

Our FFA and 4-H members delivered 226 pounds of canned food items to the McCormick County Helping Hands Food Pantry.



CHRISTMAS FOR CRITTERS

We delivered our donations to the Newberry County Animal from our Christmas for Critters program! This was a great service opportunity for our students.



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CAMPUS CALENDAR | January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Second Semester Begins	5	6	7	8 Border Bowl
9	10	11	12	13	14 No Early Release	15
16	17 Martin Luther King Day No School Students Return To Campus	18	19	20	21	22
23 Wildlife Conclave	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



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Trial Team*

